

HAWAII
PACIFIC
HEALTH

KAPI'OLANI
PALI MOMI
STRAUB
WILCOX

August 22, 2017 at 9:00am
Committee Meeting Room

Committee On Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

To: Councilman Brandon J. C. Elefante, Chair
Councilwoman Kymberly Marcos Pine, Vice Chair
Councilman Ikaika Anderson
Councilman Ernest Y. Martin
Councilman Trevor Ozawa

From: Michael Robinson
Vice President – Government Relations & Community Affairs

Re: City Council Bill 70 – Testimony in Support

My name is Michael Robinson, Vice President, Government Relations and Community Affairs at Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH). Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system, and the state's largest health care provider and non-governmental employer. Hawai'i Pacific Health is committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region through its four hospitals, more than 50 outpatient clinics and service sites, and over 1,600 affiliated physicians. Hawai'i Pacific Health's hospitals are Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Pali Momi Medical Center, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital.

I am writing in support of City Council Bill 70 which prohibits smoking and vaping in a motor vehicle in which a minor is present.

Secondhand smoke in vehicles is more concentrated than in other indoor settings. Because children have little to no control over their environments and cannot leave if secondhand smoke bothers them, they run a greater risk of suffering from the damaging health effects. Secondhand smoke in a car can be up to ten times more toxic than what the Environmental Protection Agency considers unhealthy air quality, even when a window is down. There are numerous studies on the detriments of secondhand smoke, and this bill is a solution that will protect children who cannot advocate themselves for safe air.

The prohibition suggested in City Council Bill 70 will help to protect our youth from the damaging health affects of secondhand smoke. Hawai'i Pacific Health supports City Council Bill 70.

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